

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/475,385
Supplemental Amendment After Final dated March 19, 2004
Reply to Office Action dated April 22, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and continued examination of the above-identified application are respectfully requested.

The amendment to the claims is editorial in nature and/or further defines what applicants regard as their invention. Full support for the amendment exists in the application as originally filed including, but not limited to, the claims as originally filed.

In the Amendment After Final, the Examiner by way of the Advisory Action, indicated that the amendment has not been entered. However, in the Advisory Action, as well as the Final Office Action, the Examiner did allow claim 51.

By way of this amendment, all pending claims have been made to be dependent, directly or indirectly, on claim 51 or have been canceled. Claims 19 and 50 have been canceled by way of this Amendment. Accordingly, all claims are directed to allowable subject matter, and therefore, the present application is in condition for allowance. This amendment does not raise any new questions of patentability and does not necessitate any further searching on the part of the Examiner since the Examiner has already considered these claims and claim 51 has been indicated as allowed. Furthermore, the amendment places the application in immediate condition for allowance or, at the very least, in a better condition for appeal. Accordingly, since no new questions are raised, and for the above reasons, the Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the amendment.

At page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 19, 22, 39-46, and 48-50 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Boes et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,807,494). For the following reasons, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

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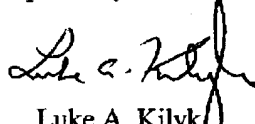
Since all claims are now dependent, directly or indirectly, on allowed claim 51 and this claim was not rejected, this rejection is moot. Accordingly, this rejection should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 03-0060. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such extension is requested and should also be charged to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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